

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A domain name management system, comprising:

a domain name identifier that generates a graphical user interface on an operator computer that accepts input of a domain name from an agent and accepts input of identifying information about the ~~coupled to receive input from an agent~~ accessing the domain name management system, the agent acting on behalf of a registrant of an active domain name, the graphical user interface providing the domain name identifier generating a request for and accepting identification of a domain name to be ~~the~~ an active domain name and the graphical user interface providing the identifying information to the domain name management system ~~allowing an authorized agent to change information about the active domain name in the shared registry system;~~

an authorization checker responsive to ~~an input from the agent to check whether~~ the identifying information about the agent, the authorization checker comparing the identifying information with stored information to determine if an administrative contact for the active domain name has identified to the domain management system that the agent is authorized to change information about the active domain name in the shared registry system and, if the agent ~~lacks authority~~ is not authorized to change information about the active domain name in the shared registry system, the authorization checker generating a communication to ~~the~~ administrative contact for the active domain name to determine if the agent ~~should~~ is to be given authority authorized within the domain name management system to

change information about the active domain name in the shared registry system;  
and

an information change engine responsive to a request from the agent to change information about the active domain name, the request from the agent input through a graphical user interface on the operator computer, the information change engine generating an information change request that changes the information about the active domain name in the shared registry system ~~in~~ response to the request from if the agent is authorized by the authorization checker.

2. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 1, wherein the information change engine resides on a server of an accredited registrar.

3. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 1, wherein the information change engine generates a confirmation message indicating success of the information change request.

4. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 1, wherein the information change engine resides on a server coupled to a second server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

5. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 4, wherein the information change request is passed through the second server and to the shared registry system.

6. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 1, wherein, in response to determining that the agent is authorized for the active domain name, the information change engine causes display of a screen listing a plurality of functions for changing information within a zone file for the active domain name.

7. (Currently amended) A domain name management system, comprising:

an authentication interface generator that generates a ~~message that at least in part causes display~~ graphical user interface on an operator terminal of including a request for identification information from an operator seeking access to the domain name management system, the domain management system receiving operator identification information input by the operator at the operator terminal;

a domain identification interface generator that generates a ~~message that at least in part causes display~~ graphical user interface on the operator terminal of including a request for input from the operator of a domain name to be an active domain name, the domain management system receiving the domain name input by the operator at the operator terminal and setting the domain name as an active domain name;

an authentication checker that determines, in response to the identification information input by the operator, if a contact identified in the shared registry system for the active domain name has authorized the operator to ~~make changes to~~ change information within the zone file for the active domain name, the authentication checker preventing changes to the zone file for the active domain name if the operator is not authorized; and

an information change engine responsive to the authentication checker and to an information change request input by an authorized operator, the information change engine ~~causing a change to~~ changing information about the active domain name in the zone file for the active domain name and generating a confirmation message that at least in part causes display of a screen on the operator terminal confirming execution of the information change request, the domain name management system ~~causing the zone file with the changed information about the active domain name to update~~ updating the shared registry system with the changed zone file.

8. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 7, further comprising a diagnostic utility engine, responsive to input by the operator of at least one diagnostic request, the diagnostic utility engine executing a diagnostic utility corresponding to the at least one diagnostic request on the active domain name, the diagnostic utility engine ~~returning~~ displaying a result of the diagnostic utility ~~on the active domain name to a screen~~ within a graphical user interface on the operator terminal.

9. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 8, wherein the diagnostic utility accesses a the shared registry system when executed.

10. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 9, wherein the diagnostic utility produces as ~~an output data representing~~ at least a portion of the zone file ~~information~~.

11. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 8, wherein the diagnostic utility accesses a plurality of name servers when executed.

12. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server of an accredited registrar.

13. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server ~~capable of that~~ directly ~~accessing a~~ accesses the shared registry system.

14. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server coupled to a second server ~~capable of that~~ directly ~~accessing a~~ accesses the shared registry system.

15. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 14, wherein the information change ~~engine is passed~~ request passes through the second server ~~and~~ to the shared registry system.

16. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 7, wherein, in response to determining that the ~~agent~~ operator is authorized for the active domain name, the information change engine ~~causes display of~~ displays a screen listing ~~a plurality~~ of functions for changing information within ~~a~~ the zone file for the active domain name.

17. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 16, wherein, if the operator is not ~~authoritative~~ authorized for the active domain name, the authentication checker determines if the operator should be ~~made authoritative~~ authorized for the active domain name.

18. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 7, further comprising a function selection interface generator that generates a ~~message at least in part providing a~~ graphical user interface with a plurality of selectable functions for managing a domain name.

19. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 7, further comprising a function selection interface generator that generates a ~~message at least in part providing a~~ graphical user interface with a plurality of selectable functions for managing a domain name, the plurality of selectable functions including domain name diagnostics and zone file information change.

20. (Currently amended) The domain name management system of claim 16, further comprising a diagnostic utility engine, responsive to input by the operator of at least one diagnostic request, the diagnostic utility engine executing a diagnostic utility corresponding to the at least one diagnostic request on the active domain name, the diagnostic utility engine returning a result of the diagnostic utility on the active domain name to a screen on the operator terminal.